

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A drinking apparatus including:
a container having a lid and defining an internal cavity for holding a body of liquid;

a straw associated with the lid and having a bore; and

a valve element that operates in conjunction with ~~an opening on the container~~
the bore of the straw and is operable between an open condition and a closed condition;

wherein the valve element is biased to the closed condition and moves to the open condition responsive to liquid being drawn through the straw; wherein the apparatus completely encapsulates the internal cavity to thereby prevent substances from being introduced to the cavity; and wherein removal of the lid from the container results in an indication damage to either the lid or the container thus indicating that the apparatus has been tampered with.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A drinking apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the valve element is biased to the closed condition by gravity.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): A drinking apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the container is a cup.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): A drinking container according to claim 1 wherein the lid is arranged to be snap fitted to the container.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A drinking apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the lid and container fit together closely to resist removal of the lid by use of a leveraging tool.

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A drinking apparatus according to claim ~~[[7]]~~
1 wherein the straw is marked on its outer surface in the region of the valve element.

Claim 9 (Original): A drinking apparatus according to claim 8 wherein the region of the straw is marked by colouring the region.

Claim 10 (Original): A drinking apparatus according to claim 9 wherein the region of the straw is marked by being fluorescent or luminous.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): A drinking apparatus according to claim 1 wherein the valve element is luminous or fluorescent.

Claim 12 (Cancelled)